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ORIGINAL



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From: Pam Mason [pamldm@hotmail.com]
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Arizona Corporation Commission

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December 4th, 2007 meeting held in Pine.

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Dear Commissioners,

I was somewhat disappointed when I attended the recent ACC meeting in Pine. I was under the impression that there would be a three minute speaking limit and no cheering or clapping from opposing sides would be allowed. Please understand I am all for persons wishing to express an opinion that may be different from my own, but given the atmosphere I felt I could not speak out. As I said to Commissioner Pierce after, I was afraid to speak. Thank you Commissioner Pierce for taking my written statement and saying that you would pass it out to all Commissioners. In the future I would much prefer to speak before Judge Nodes and the ACC in a court room setting in Phoenix, if and when I feel I have anything relevant to say.

It seemed to me that the general public really don't understand the role of the ACC and the oversight it has over Brookes Utilities and others. Rather like the public not understanding how the water hauling charges are arrived at no matter how often it is written and explained.

I read the testimony of ACC staff Mr. Chaves and Mr. Scott and I found it to be thorough and comprehensive. Probably only a handful of those in attendance even bothered to read it.

Some in the Community are hell bent on whipping up a frenzy against Brookes Utilities, Pine Strawberry Water Improvement District and the proposed K2 well. It seems strange to me that I have a document in front of me written by Bob Cassaro a couple of years ago "Solving Our Water Problems" where option #1 is to drill deep wells in Strawberry. The point I am making is that anyone can pull information out of testimony or hand-outs to fit their argument. So when at the hearing in Pine we were given the latest hand out from Mr. Cassaro (you probably have one) his "facts" followed the same format.

Commissioner Mundell may well remember how some of the public came to Phoenix during the past rate case hearing, and advised the ACC that Gila County Board of Supervisors had control of the PSWID. We could get no information as to what was going on, no minutes were posted, how much was being spent on lawyers and consultants and in fact we were dealing with a "flagrant waste of taxpayers money." Money that was originally allocated for finding new water. Thankfully we got back to voting our own board and it is ironic that those same parties and consultant who engineered the board being taken over by Gila, are the very ones now crying that \$300K is a waste of taxpayers money.

Commissioners I don't envy you the task of sorting out fact from fiction but please make a decision just as soon as you can. I understand you probably would like us just to go away, but both Pine and Strawberry need to be allowed to find water quickly, and the proposed K2 well could give us that chance.

Sincerely,
Pamela Mason

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